



ART  
WORKS  
Projects

# ANNUAL REPORT

FY 2016-17



# WELCOME

Dear friends of AWP,

In a year filled with chaos and uncertainty, conversations about human rights have never been as vital or as urgent. ART WORKS Projects continues to produce impactful, powerful visual materials that inspire action and catalyze change on the most intractable human rights issues of our time.

From our home base in Chicago, AWP reached audiences around the world on topics including refugee resettlement, transitional justice, extreme sexual violence, and juvenile justice. Our work was exhibited in 10 countries, we collaborated with 31 partners, and our Chicago programs reached 1,547 attendees. At home and around the world, AWP works with photographers, journalists, grassroots activists, educators, academics, and artists to start conversations and raise awareness.

AWP's exhibitions, projections, and dynamic programs have the ability to raise awareness of vital issues and to educate audiences. As one attendee of our exhibition on juvenile incarceration noted: "This exhibit is so amazing! More people should be aware of the issues within our criminal justice system, and these photos do that justice."

In the coming year, the defense of human rights will be more urgent than ever. AWP is ready to respond – and we need your support. With your help, we can reach more audiences, tackle more critical issues and inspire more people to fight injustice and defend human rights. We look forward to advancing human rights with you in the coming year.

**Mandy Terc, PhD**

Interim Executive Director



## AWP AT A GLANCE

ART WORKS Projects' mission is to use design and the arts to raise awareness of and educate the public about significant human rights issues. ART WORKS provides visual advocacy tools which produce action on human rights crises at the grassroots, media, and policy levels.

Conceptualized and created in conjunction with established humanitarian and human rights advocacy organizations, ART WORKS Projects designs photography exhibitions, projections, films, and multi-media projects that inspire wide audiences to end major human rights violations. ART WORKS' agenda includes combatting genocide, extreme sexual violence, famine, child labor and human trafficking, ethnic cleansing and mass incarceration. ART WORKS selects topics which are the most intractable, the least covered in the mainstream media, and the most abusive for victims.

# EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS



## VINNY AND DAVID: LIFE AND INCARCERATION OF A FAMILY

*Vinny and David: Life and Incarceration of a Family*, a photo exhibition exploring the impact of incarceration on families, began in 2012 when photographer Isadora Kosofsky encountered Vinny, then age 13, as he was being booked into a juvenile detention center in New Mexico for stabbing his mother's assailant. Since that time, Kosofsky has forged an ongoing relationship with Vinny, his older brother David, and the rest of their family as she documents their navigation of life both inside and outside of New Mexico's juvenile and adult prison systems. This exhibition was on display at AWP's studio from June through August 2017 and will be installed at the Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation in Chicago's Back of the Yards neighborhood in August and September.



## THE PROSECUTORS

*The Prosecutors* is a feature-length documentary film that follows the prosecution of rape as a war crime in three post-conflict countries: Colombia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It explores the following questions: How do you accuse your neighbor of a war crime? How do you stand in front of uniformed officers and make the claim that rather than liberators, these people are rapists? What does it take to demonstrate to a village that all of the crimes that have been perpetrated against its people are worthy of conviction – including long-ignored sexual violence? A rough cut of the film will be completed in September 2017.

# EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS



## TRANSITIONS

*Transitions* is a multi-media exhibition that brought together creative teams from Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Chicago to curate a photography exhibition on transitional justice in post-conflict environments. This project considered multiple aspects of post-conflict society at varying stages of transitional justice. By sharing diverse post-conflict experiences, *Transitions* fostered the development of new ideas and solidarity among fellow global citizens. The exhibition was displayed at AWP's studio during 2016 and was installed in Colombia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Democratic Republic of Congo in 2017.



## SANCTUARY

## SANCTUARY/SUSTENANCE

*Sanctuary/Sustenance: The Story of Many Journeys* is a multimedia projection of photography, film, music, and words launched on June 20, 2013 in honor of World Refugee Day in cities around the world. The installation was projected on the facades of community and civic centers, houses of worship, places of learning and other locales that have historically opened their doors as places of welcome and shelter. Beginning in 2015, in American and European cities, ART WORKS Projects began a second phase of the initiative, creating new bodies of work with local resettlement partners. In 2017, *Sanctuary/Sustenance* was featured in many celebrations of World Refugee Day around the world, including projections in Brussels, Chicago, Poland, Sweden and Bosnia.

# EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS



## 43: THE AFTERMATH OF A DISAPPEARANCE

Photographer Emmanuel Guillén Lozano of Pachuca, Mexico was the winner of the 2016 Emerging Lens Mentorship. Guillén Lozano's project *43: The Aftermath of a Disappearance* is an ongoing visual documentation of the repercussions of the mass kidnapping of 43 student protesters in Mexico. The project follows the victims' families and the protests they attend in Mexico City and the state of Guerrero. This exhibition was shown in AWP's studio in 2016.



# PROGRAMS

## **EVENTS AT AWP STUDIO**

625 at 6:25 is a series of exhibitions, community conversations, panel discussions, film screenings, concerts, and more. In the 2016-2017 season, AWP hosted more than ten events in its studio on topics including transitional justice, refugees and resettlement, and juvenile incarceration.

## **EMERGING LENS**

Emerging Lens is AWP's annual, juried photography competition for photographers age 18 to 27 whose work focuses on social justice and human rights.

## **AWP + CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

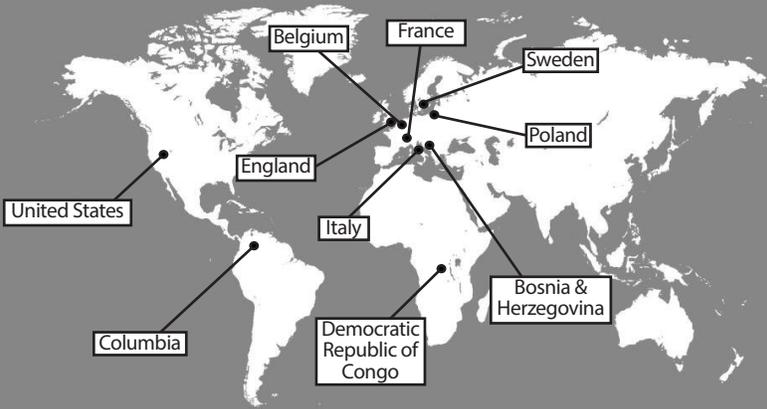
As part of AWP's mission to provide free human rights programming and to link international human rights issues to the issues affecting Chicago communities, we began partnering with Chicago Public Library branches throughout the city of Chicago in order to foster conversation on issues explored in exhibits. In 2016 and 2017 AWP conducted six presentations at branch libraries on Chicago's north, west and south sides.

## **AWP + CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

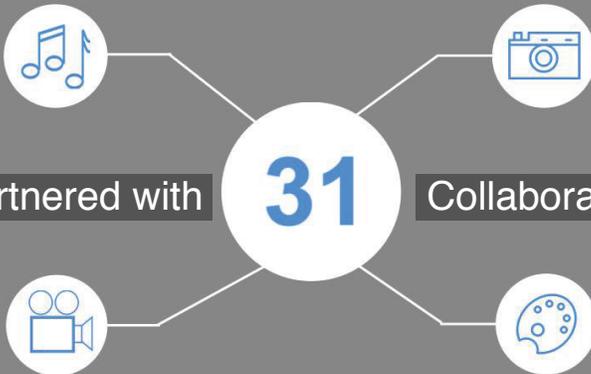
The Workshop To Change the World program was created to encourage students to use art to advocate for human rights and environmental issues of their choice. It can be implemented within a single arts class or over several days of intensive teaching.

# BY THE NUMBERS

AWP Exhibited in **10** Countries



AWP Partnered with **31** Collaborators



Total Attendance for AWP Events in Chicago



Facebook Analytics



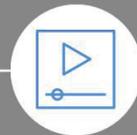
3,690  
Total Page Likes



1  
New Page Like Per Day



20,330  
People Reached By Posts



226  
Minutes of Videos Viewed

# PARTNERS

**Art und Amen**

(Köln, Germany)

**Centro Nacional de Memoria Histórica**

(Bogotá, Colombia)

**Communities and Relatives of Illinois Incarcerated Children**

(Chicago, Illinois)

**Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict**

(London, England)

**Justicia en Ayotzinapa, Comité Chicago**

(Chicago, Illinois)

**Loyola Refugee Outreach**

(Chicago, Illinois)

**Loyola University Chicago**

(Chicago, Illinois)

**Manifest Media**

(Chicago, Illinois)

**Restore Justice Illinois**

(Chicago, Illinois)

**The British Consulate-General Chicago**

(Chicago, Illinois)

**The Center for Forced Migration Studies at the Buffett Center,  
Northwestern University**

(Evanston, Illinois)

**The Center for International Human Rights,  
Northwestern University School of Law**

(Evanston, Illinois)

**The Post-Conflict Research Center**

(Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)

**The University of San Diego Joan B. Kroc Institute  
for Peace and Justice**

(San Diego, California)

**WARM Foundation**

(Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)

**Yole! Africa**

(Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo)

# DONORS

## LEADER \$15,000 +

Art Works Fund  
Cofra Foundation  
Conant Family Foundation  
Grosvenor Capital  
MacArthur Foundation  
National Endowment of the Arts  
Open Society Foundations

## PATRON \$10,000 - \$14,999

Earl & Brenda Shapiro Foundation  
McCall Family Foundation  
National Philanthropic Trust  
Leslie Thomas

## PRODUCER \$5,000 - \$9,999

Leah & Frederick Missbach Day  
Frankel Family Foundation  
Lowrey Rodriguez Family Trust

## ADVOCATE \$2,500 - \$4,999

Theo Van Blyenburgh  
Friedman Law Group  
Paul & De Gray  
Lynn Hiestand  
Roeder Law Offices  
Wendy Taube  
United Nations High Commissioner  
for Refugees

## ALLY \$1,000 - \$2,499

Howard Conant Jr.  
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Meredith George  
Great Hearts Initiatives  
Julie Hubbard  
Illinois Humanities  
Laurel Lipkin  
John Ptak  
Erica Mann Ramis  
Carla Young

## FRIEND \$500 - \$999

Sonya Anderson  
Judith Cothran  
Betsy Dietel & Michael Sands  
John Donovan  
Bronwyn Poole & Peter Schmitz  
Andy Szot  
Terc-Kaplanoglu Family  
Thomas Thorne Thompson  
Robert Usdan & Amy Yenkin

## TEAMMATE \$100 - \$499

Shari Albert  
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Michael Hrzic  
Patricia Jones

Peter Kupferberg  
Alissa Lillie  
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Marvin & Audrey Miller  
Dana Rice  
Amanda Rivkin

Jesse Rodriguez  
Karin Rose  
Mary Shaughnessy  
Susan Shaughnessy  
Susan Smith  
Laurie Weider  
Tonya Wells

# STAFF

## **Interim Executive Director - Dr. Mandy Terc**

Dr. Mandy Terc is the Interim Executive Director of ART WORKS Projects for Human Rights. Most recently, she served as director of the Sheikh Faisal Center for Entrepreneurship in the Middle East at DePaul University where she developed programs to strengthen Qatar's entrepreneurial capacity and to connect entrepreneurs in Doha and Chicago. Dr. Terc has written extensively about the region's new generation of entrepreneurs. She conducted 18 months of field research on entrepreneurship organizations in Syria and speaks fluent Arabic. As a long-term member of AWP's advisory board, Dr. Terc was instrumental in developing the exhibition Children of Syria. Dr. Terc holds a bachelor's degree from Princeton University, a master's degree from Harvard University and a PhD from the University of Michigan.

## **Communications + Exhibitions Coordinator - Annalise Taylor**

Annalise Taylor is the Communications & Exhibitions Coordinator for ART WORKS Projects for Human Rights. She holds a bachelor's degree from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and a master's degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) in Art History, Theory, and Criticism. She also served as a Graduate Fellow for SAIC's new Institute for Curatorial Research & Practice. Taylor's work has specifically focused on the impact of art for both the maker and the viewer, and she is committed to enhancing audience engagement for social change. Her museum and curatorial experience includes the Roger Brown Study Collection, the Brooks Museum of Art, and the the Project Room Gallery. Prior to attending SAIC, she was based in Argentina, where she led communications for TasterLab, an international tech startup.

## **Current Interns**

### **Michen Dewey**

Michen Dewey will graduate from Loyola University Chicago in the spring of 2018 with a B.A. in journalism and a B.A. in photography. She plans on using her passion for helping people and informing the public to start a career in photojournalism.

### **Hasan T Özgüç**

Hasan T Özgüç is an international student from Istanbul, Turkey, and recently graduated from Loyola University Chicago with a degree in International Studies and a minor in Marketing. He is looking for careers in research, marketing and media.

### **Hayoung Jeong**

Hayoung Jeong is a recent graduate of School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where she received a B.A. in studio fine arts. She is an interdisciplinary artist and educator whose work explores the defects of societal systems and politics.

### **Anna Fallon**

Anna Fallon is an undergraduate senior at Loyola University Chicago. She will be graduating in May 2018 with a B.A. in anthropology, a B.A. in international studies, and a minor in marketing. She looks forward to continuing her education with a graduate program that emphasizes a humanitarian focus and anthropological lens.

# STAFF

## Past Interns

### Claire Abell

Claire Abell graduated from Loyola University Chicago with majors in International Studies and Psychology and a minor in French Language and Literature. In 2017, Claire will spend a year in France and hopes to pursue a graduate degree in global studies or museum studies.

### Giovanna Giuriolo

Giovanna Giuriolo is a recent graduate of Loyola University Chicago, where she majored in International Studies and History, and minored in Black World Studies. She plans on attending graduate school to study international affairs and political science in Europe.

### Chelsea Hoy

Chelsea Hoy graduated from Loyola University Chicago in 2017 with a B.A. in photography and a B.S. in psychology. As a visual and performing artist, she is most passionate about the potential art has to elevate the communities and people around her.

### Hannah Scott

Hannah Scott graduated from Loyola University Chicago majoring in Cultural Anthropology with minors in Peace Studies and International Studies. Hannah's interests include the theoretical elements of peace and conflict, mechanisms for nonviolent social change and the importance of narrative in humanizing social issues.





# BOARD MEMBERS

## **Sonya Anderson**

Sonya Anderson has served as the Senior Vice President for Programs at Crown Family Philanthropies, the Vice-President for National Affairs at the Ounce of Prevention Fund, and as the Education Program Director at the Oprah Winfrey Foundations. Sonya holds an undergraduate degree from Yale University, a master's degree from the University of Ghana, and a doctorate from Harvard University.

## **Leah Missbach Day**

Leah Missbach Day is a documentary photographer based in Chicago, whose work has been exhibited across the U.S. and internationally. Day's artistry extends to the written word including the forward to National Geographic's book, *Wheels of Change: How Women Rode to Freedom* and a rebuttal to the book, *Hope for Africa*. Day received her M.F.A. in Photography from Columbia College Chicago where she taught for eight years.

## **Roberta M. Feldman, M.Arch., PhD**

Roberta Feldman is an architectural activist, researcher and educator committed to democratic design. Feldman has been engaged in public interest design and research for more than 30 years. Feldman is Professor Emerita, UIC School of Architecture, Director Emerita, UIC City Design Center, and affiliated faculty, IIT PhD Program in Architecture.

# BOARD MEMBERS

## **Tracey Fletcher**

Tracey Fletcher is a lawyer with the Friedman Law Group, Ltd., a Chicago-based firm specializing in marketing law. Tracey's practice focuses on charitable promotions, environmental marketing, and general commercial transactions. She is also the general counsel of the Usher III Initiative, a medical research foundation. She received her undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Michigan.

## **De Gray**

De Gray is a dedicated activist with deep experience in the arts, education, and human rights. A long time supporter of ART WORKS, she was previously co-chair of the Human Rights Watch Chicago Committee. She serves on the Education Committees for both the Art Institute of Chicago and the Hyde Park Art Center Board, and is also a board member for Restore Justice Illinois.

## **Julie Hubbard**

Julie Hubbard is the Senior Vice President – Finance at Easter Seals, Inc., and transitioned to the non-profit finance sector in 2005 to fulfill her objective of making a positive change in the world. Julie has an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and completed her undergraduate work at Alma College. She is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

## **Ashley Theriot McCall**

Ashley Theriot McCall is a human rights advocate and philanthropist. She is currently involved with Refugee One as a sponsor and mentor for Congolese refugee families, and is also on the Chicago Council on Global Affairs Women and Global Development Steering Committee. She has an MBA from Northwestern University (Kellogg) and a BA from Georgetown University.

## **Leslie Thomas**

Leslie Thomas is the founding Executive and Creative Director of ART WORKS Projects. Leslie is a founding principal with LARC Inc., a national architectural practice, and serves on the boards of Congo Kids Initiative and is on the Chicago Council on Global Affairs Women and Global Development Steering Committee.

# AWP SPOTLIGHT

## Leslie Thomas

Founding Executive and Creative Director of ART WORKS Projects



**Q: What inspired you to start AWP?**

A: I saw a photo of a very young boy who had been a victim of genocide in Darfur. He was about the same age as my own son, and I simply felt that I had to do something to try to prevent further tragedy to children and civilians who are so often the victims of violent conflict. My architectural partner was open to expanding our practice to include exhibition design and so we began the DARFUR/DARFUR projections with the collaboration of a wide number of our design and film friends. Eventually that project evolved into ART WORKS Projects.

**Q: Who is or has been your biggest inspiration? Why?**

A: My parents encouraged me to try anything and fail early and often. They experienced difficulty in their lives and yet never operated from a place of fear. It was and continues to be inspiring.

**Q: If you could go back and give your 21-year old self a valuable piece of advice, what would you say?**

A: Everything isn't a 10. Let some stuff slide.

**Q: If you could solve any problem in the world, what one problem would it be?**

A: Poverty (and I think we can if we want to)

**Q: What are three adjectives that best describe you?**

A: Stubborn. Tired. Relentless.

**Q: What was the most challenging thing you overcame during your time at AWP?**

A: "You want to do what?" That was pretty much the reaction the first 20 times we told museum curator we wanted to project enormous images from an ongoing genocide on their facade. But then someone said "yes, I get it. Let's get people informed and engaged."

**Q: What would you say are the most important decisions you make as a leader of AWP?**

A: I think the leader of any human rights organization has to constantly balance mission and capacity. There are many choices and they are all hard. The key for me was to think big, stay fearless, but always have a backup plan for the organization's survival. Duct tape helps.

**Q: What are you focused on now that you've left the position of ED at AWP?**

A: Family, kids, friends. I came later to parenting and have found it immeasurably joyful, even when I'm doing it all wrong. Work is busy and good. I have been a practicing architect since my 20's and run a practice called LARC with design partner Greg Doench. With ART WORKS I'm directing and producing The Prosecutors, a feature-length documentary on prosecution of sexual violence in conflict. I'm also spending time on personal commitments to Congo Kids Initiative, a foundation several journalists and I started to support children in eastern Congo. Here in Chicago I've been excited about expanding cultural engagement with resettled refugees and immigrants through a new annual World Refugee Day event.